

Yale University *New Haven, Connecticut*

*Department of Biology*

*Osborn Memorial Laboratories*

July 25, 1969

Professor Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
Stanford University  
School of Medicine  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Prof. Lederberg;

I am writing to you to enlist your aid and direction. The flight of Apollo 11, and its experimental achievements, have awakened me to the scientific potential of space research. However foreign the fields of space research have been to me in the past, I now feel that I would like to enter one of them. Knowing only of your past interests, I was surprised to see your recent letter in the New York Times. My wife, a geneticist, informed me of your current connection with the space effort; you seemed, to me, the person most likely to appreciate my desire to enter this field. I wish to know if you can find a place for me at Stanford.

I will be receiving my Ph. D. from Yale University this December. My major field is nominally evolutionary biology; my research, however, has been concerned with the interactions of behavior and ecology with genetic polymorphisms in platyfish. My oral comprehensive examination was in evolution and population genetics; my written comprehensives were in ecology and in comparative physiology. I am interested in neurophysiology but I have no practical experience with it and I have dabbled with mathematical modelling of genetical and ecological problems. Although, as you can see, my formal preparation has been in fields unrelated to those which I wish to pursue now, I feel that I can overcome any lack of relevant training; the scope of my studies has always been broad.

I am planning to spend the coming year at the University of Leiden, Holland, in Prof. van Iersel's ethology laboratory, but these plans could still be changed. If I spend the year at Leiden I would be looking for a position for the year starting September, 1970.

If you are in a position to help me directly, I would appreciate anything you could do; if you are not in such a position, perhaps you would be willing to pass this letter along to a colleague who is.

Sincerely,

*Richard Borowsky*  
Richard Borowsky

R. Borowsky